

EXHIBIT 14DATE 3/16/07SB 291**Loren Bough**

From: Michael Redburn [mredburn@bozeman.k12.mt.us]
Sent: Wednesday, March 14, 2007 7:44 AM
To: Loren Bough
Subject: Support for SB 291

Dear Loren,

Thank you for your continued efforts on behalf of the high school students and families who reside in the Big Sky area. I am providing you with a copy of a message I will send to each member of the House Education Committee regarding my strong support for SB 291. You or your representative should feel free to submit a hard copy of this email into the record during the hearing on this bill on Friday, March 16, 2007. I regret that I will be unable to attend and testify in person to my support for this legislation.

Sincerely,
Michael Redburn, Superintendent
Bozeman Public Schools

Dear House Education Committee Members,

I strongly urge you to support SB 291. Over the past two years the Bozeman Public Schools and the Friends of Big Sky Education (FBSE) have worked diligently and effectively to develop the provisions contained in this legislation. As a result, the Bozeman Board of Trustees and the FBSE are in mutual support of SB 291.

This legislation will allow the Big Sky community to expand the Ophir School District from its current K-8 program to a K-12 program. The Bozeman Trustees are on record as supporting the creation of a high school program at Big Sky. The provisions of this legislation provides for that with the necessary safeguards for the remaining Bozeman High School District taxpayers. The process whereby Ophir could expand to a K-12 district is deliberative and consistent with other legal procedures regulating school district boundary changes.

Our support is contingent upon the provisions as approved by the Senate.

3/16/2007

This legislation is a true example of collaboration between various parties and it is deserving of your support.

Respectfully,
Michael Redburn, Superintendent
Bozeman Public Schools